

NEWS RELEASE

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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WATER RESOURCE BOARD MAKES LOAN, GRANTS AT MEETING FRIDAY IN BOISE

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho – Feb 9, 2004 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

The Idaho Water Resource approved \$163,750 in a loan and two grants at its meeting Friday in Boise, Board officials announced today.

The Board received six requests include five asking for direct financial assistance totaling \$352,788. The requests approved included:

- A loan of \$155,000 to the Thunder Canyon Owners Association (Bannock County near Lava Hot Springs) to upgrade one well and drill a 2nd well;
- A grant of \$5,000 to the Cougar Ridge Water & Sewer District (East of Lewiston) for a water master plan study; and
- A grant of \$3,7500 to Bonneville County for a water study of a new water system at I-15 Exit 113 (between Idaho Falls and Shelley). The County had asked for a grant of \$5,000 but the Board reduced the amount to make it a one-for-one match with county funds.

The Board denied a pair of requests for financial support:

- A loan increase of \$180,288 to the Hoyt Bluff Water Association (Kootenai County north west of Post Falls), which would have brought its total loan to \$355,288 for a water improvement project. The Board felt it had already contributed enough to the project and that Association members could be assessed to make up the amount requested.
- A grant of \$7,500 to the City of Hansen (Twin Falls County) for a well siting study and the drilling of a test well;

The Board also approved a request by the Boise City Canal Company to release 300 acre feet of water from its loan collateral of 1,000 acre feet so it can sell the water to United Water Idaho

For more information on Idaho Water Resource Board financial programs, visit the Board's website at: www.idwr.state.id.us/waterboard/financial.htm, or contact Brian Patton, (208) 327-5432.